

# Archivaria Awards



The Association of Canadian Archivists has established the following three awards to recognize excellent writing in *Archivaria*: the W. Kaye Lamb Prize, the Hugh A. Taylor Prize, and the Gordon Dodds Prize.

Winners receive a certificate, a cash prize, formal notification in *Archivaria*, and ongoing listing on the ACA website ([www.archivists.ca](http://www.archivists.ca)). A description of the adjudication procedures for these awards may also be found there.

In this issue, the general editor is pleased to announce the winners of the awards for 2017.

## ***W. Kaye Lamb Prize (established 1983)***

Named for Dr. William Kaye Lamb, Dominion Archivist of Canada (1948–1969) and founding National Librarian of Canada (1953–1967), the prize is awarded annually to honour the author of the *Archivaria* article that, by its exceptional combination of research, reflection, and writing, most advances archival thinking in Canada. The senior award of the journal, it is for the best article overall.

The winner of the W. Kaye Lamb Prize for 2017 is J.J. Ghaddar for her article, “The Spectre in the Archive: Truth, Reconciliation, and Indigenous Archival Memory,” in *Archivaria* 82 (Fall 2016). The citation reads: “J.J. Ghaddar’s article grapples with one of the most urgent issues currently facing the Canadian archival community: how to answer the calls to action of the Truth and Reconciliation commission without falling into complacency or self-congratulation. Ghaddar’s thoughtful analysis of two recent court cases involving the records gathered by the TRC exposes the politics of memory and oblivion in all their complexity. Passionate and persuasive, the article starts an important conversation about the many ways national settler archival repositories represent and uphold Canada’s colonialist endeavours. The concept of “haunting” provides a metaphor that allows us to see that placating the ghosts must not be the goal; to decolonize archives and begin to respond meaningfully to the demands of reconciliation, settler archivists need to accept a prolonged, uncomfortable co-existence with the “spectre” as we rethink the power structures of archives from the ground up.”

***Hugh A. Taylor Prize (established 2006)***

The Hugh A. Taylor Prize was established in 2006 to honour the doyen of Canadian archival thinkers, whose wide range of scholarly publications sparked the Canadian archival imagination. The prize is awarded annually to the author of the *Archivaria* article that presents new ideas or refreshing syntheses in the most imaginative way, especially by exploring the implications of concepts or trends from other disciplines for archival thinking and activity, and by extending the boundaries of archival theory in new directions.

The winner of the Hugh A. Taylor Prize for 2017 is Naomi Norquay for her article, “An Accidental Archive of the Old Durham Road: Reclaiming a Black Pioneer Settlement,” which appeared in *Archivaria* 81 (Spring 2016). The citation reads: “Written by an “accidental archivist,” this article is a fascinating, personal investigation of a disappeared community and its remaining textual, oral, and material traces. Through her evocative prose, Norquay challenges the limitations of the official archive by turning to “the land as archival document,” both in a literal and a metaphorical sense. Norquay musters a range of scholarship including curriculum/education theory, archaeology, autobiographical studies, Black Canadian studies, and Ann Cvetkovich’s idea of the “archive of feelings” and ties it neatly and specifically to elements of her case study. The reader is easily persuaded to look more closely at the recordness of seemingly unassuming material traces, arriving at an emotive (not merely rational) recognition of the limitations of traditional concepts of records and archives. This quietly beautiful article clearly demonstrates how enriching moving beyond the boundaries of a single discipline can be.”

***Gordon Dodds Prize (established 2011)***

The Gordon Dodds Prize recognizes superior research and writing on an archival topic by a student enrolled in a master’s level archival studies program at a Canadian university. The award honours Gordon Dodds, the first president of the ACA, *Archivaria*’s longest-serving general editor, and a staunch advocate for graduate archival education. Winners of the Dodds Prize will have their articles published in *Archivaria* in the year following the announcement of the award. The managing editor wishes to thank Amy Marshall Furness, Braden Cannon, Rebecka Sheffield, and Raymond Frogner for their work on the adjudication committee for this year’s prize.

The winner of the Gordon Dodds Prize for 2017 is Alyssa Hamer for her paper “Ethics of Archival Practice: New Considerations in the Digital Age.” Alyssa graduated in May with MAS and MLIS degrees from UBC, and her paper was submitted by Dr. Luciana Duranti. The paper will be published in the Spring 2018 issue of *Archivaria*, and the award will be formally presented at the ACA conference in Edmonton next June. The citation on the award certificate

will read: “This paper stands out for its critical, practical, and constructive approach to the matter of archival ethics, revealing the inadequacy of current ethical codes, in a digital environment, to provide guidance for archivists in carrying out fundamental aspects of their work. The paper persuasively exposes the deficiencies of existing ethical standards with reference to real examples of challenging ethical situations that have faced archivists. In particular, the author’s recognition of the ethical responsibilities related to working with minority communities and the ethical duty to preserve records that tell a plurality of perspectives should be applicable to both digital and paper-based records. The author’s call for renewal and strengthening of professional ethics is particularly relevant to Canadian archivists now, as the ACA undertakes the revision of its own code of ethics.”



Association of  
Canadian Archivists  
Association canadienne  
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## Truths, Trust and Technology

June 6th – 9th, 2018  
Edmonton, AB

The Association of Canadian Archivists invites you to attend the 43rd Annual Conference “Truths, Trust and Technology,” June 6th to 9th, 2018 in Edmonton, Alberta. Archivists from far and wide will engage with the theme truths, trust and technology. The truth ? whatever that is ? is messy these days. In the “post?truth” era, lies can seem more convincing than facts, and in an era of discourse on decolonization, Canadians are reflecting on new truths about historical facts.

“Truths” become “lies” depending on context and interpretative lens. The very existence of facts may even be open to question. Contributing to the messy truth is technology. Amidst this technological and social backdrop, we can be certain that archivists must sustain their role as trusted custodians of the historical record. How might archives and archivists need to adapt? What new approaches, competencies and skills will be needed? How can archivists help people to realize the enriched insights into historical truths that knowledge of context and provenance offers?

### Where does “truth” lie for archives and for humanity?

Conference sessions and activities are based in and around the Chateau Lacombe Hotel, centrally located in Edmonton, walking distance from Art Gallery of Alberta and overlooking the North Saskatchewan River. The Archivists Society of Alberta will be working closely with the ACA – our website and social media platforms will have further announcements and workshop details.

While in Edmonton participants will be able to:

- Take a ride on the Edmonton Street Car
- Tour BioWare – Electronic Arts
- Be part of the East – West softball game

Edmonton extends a warm welcome to all archivists, national and international.

Conference information and registration is available at the ACA’s 2018 website, <https://archivists.ca/content/annual?conference>.

